

unfortunate shareholders from the general manager, Mr. William Crosbie :

BOSTON, MASS.

DEAR SIR :

Owing to a disreputable attempt on the part of certain parties to circulate false and libellous rumors and reports in regard to the Boston and British Columbia Copper Mining and Smelting Co., through the channels of one Joseph Martin, formerly Attorney-General of the Province of British Columbia, and others, notably one H. Mortimer Lamb, whose ability to distort the facts is only equalled by his disreputable political affiliations—as an effectual answer to all of their libels the following telegram taken from the New York Evening "Sun" shows that they have all been ousted out of office, and their ability to do harm to honest mining enterprises effectually curtailed.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S GOLD CRISIS.

FALL OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WHICH OPPOSED AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.

VANCOUVER, B.C., July 5th—The British Columbia Government which so badly mismanaged affairs in the Atlin gold field by sending out dishonest officers and passing an alien law that was inoperative, and by refusing to Chicago capitalists to build on British naval reserve land, though they held a lease from Canada's Government, went to smash yesterday owing indirectly to the people losing confidence in it for these acts. The Attorney-General responsible for the legislation was forced out of office in obedience to public opinion, and the Government will be compelled to go to the people again, retire or give place to an opposition which favors encouragement of American enterprise in the province.

The Government's fall was directly caused by those in power outraging public opinion by catering entirely to the labour and Socialistic element in British Columbia. By passing an act forbidding Japanese to labour in coal mines the Government shut up valuable collieries which were a source of great wealth to the Province. By passing an eight hour law for all miners in the Province it closed up half the mines, as the owners could not afford to pay the same wages for a short shift as they did for a long one. By passing the Alien law for the Atlin gold fields they killed the diggings, which have been closed up by the Government.

The disturbing element was Joseph Martin, Attorney-General, who is a Socialist pure and simple and a dangerous labour agitator. Premier Semlin, who dismissed him, was acting Lieutenant-Governor during Governor McInnes's absence in Atlin. He dismissed Martin on three counts: For using language unbecoming a Cabinet Minister at a public banquet; for neglecting his duty as Attorney-General by privately working against the Government in the interest of Chicago capitalists who desired to build a sawmill on British reserve claimed by the Province; and for selling cabinet secrets for political purposes.

The Minister of Mines, Mr. Hume, became burdened with the reproaches of mine owners owing to his acts, and wished to retire. The Minister of Works, F. Carter Cotton, wishes to form a coalition government with the opposition, and it is said, desires the Premiership. All the Cabinet members are anti-Britishers, and came into power chiefly on the cry of "Canada for Canadians," the former Ministry wishing to throw the Country wide open to American capital.

BOSTON & BRITISH COLUMBIA COPPER MINING & SMELTING COMPANY.

Per WILLIAM CROSBIE, General Manager.

We are also indebted to the Boston Chamber of Commerce—the attention of whose executive board had been previously called to the gross misrepresentations and untruths contained in the prospectus of the Boston & B.C. Copper Mining & Smelting Co.—for a printed copy of a letter addressed to Mr. R. P. Rothwell, editor of the *Engineering & Mining Journal*, New York, and signed by Mr. C. M. Reed. To this letter, which is headed in large type, "The Other Side of the Question," and is doubtless also intended to pacify inquisitively-inclined shareholders, is

attached a foot note by the "Prentice Investment Co.," of New York, testifying that Mr. Reed is a "wealthy and well-known resident of Boston, and a heavy stockholder in the corporation above referred to (The Boston & B.C. Copper Mining & Smelting Co.), having bought his stock after a most complete investigation." Mr. Reed writes:

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE QUESTION.

A duplicate of the letter mailed to

12 Pearl street, July 5, 1899.

P. P. ROTHWELL, ESQ.,
Editor *Engineering and Mining Journal*,
253 Broadway,
New York City.

DEAR SIR :

In your issue of June 24, 1899 there was printed a long tirade against the Boston and British Columbia Copper Mining & Smelting Company, of Maine, inspired by one H. Mortimer Lamb, managing editor of the *MINING RECORD*, of Victoria, B.C.

Ordinarily it would be consistent to pass without notice this most unwarrantable assault, for it is so flagrant, so malicious, so libelous, and so wanting in common honesty and minus (*sic*) of facts, that all of our readers who are interested in the Boston & British Columbia Copper Mining and Smelting Company look upon it in its true worth, and smile with contempt at its virility (*sic*), but it appears to me, who have read your admirable paper these many years, that the free advertisement given to this poor imitator of yours is such a base imposition upon you, that some word from those who are and have a money interest in the British Columbia Copper Mining & Smelting Company should point out to you some facts regarding the Company, although you have in no way been interested or own a share of its stock; and please bear in mind that this letter is a personal communication, and not intended for the public, for I don't believe anyone's affairs are properly conserved by a newspaper wrangle, which usually results disastrously for all concerned, no matter how just the cause on the one side or the venom on the other.

I have had from the first inception of this Company and its business a perfect acquaintance with all its interests, in common with its Board of Directors, and this letter of Editor (*sic*) Lamb's is not the first attempt to injure this Company, for those who are back of this letter in your Journal failed in their base attacks upon the business of this Company, after the very basest sort of letters to its Directors, and finding that the respectable community of Revelstoke, together with its leading newspapers had seen fit to condemn, in very bitter terms, such a dastardly move, found no other way of striking the B. & B.C. Co. than through your journal, making you an innocent accuser of people, and a business I feel sure you never knew of and about, making the attack the very worst in design possible.

The revenge sought in all these attacks is a private one solely, and partaking of a political nature, locally, for the power behind these base attempts made a favourable report of this property to parties investigating, and before the Company was formed and before a single dollar was invested in it; but later, from an antipathy to its promoters, who are ranged on the side of good government in B.C. and are opposed to the occupancy of the seat in the B.C. Legislature of this "nigger in the wood-pile," and on account also of some personal dislike towards the promoters, this B.C. Member of Legislature has sought in every way to do personal injury to them, and not gaining any headway, and their cause being taken up so vigorously by the local papers at Revelstoke, he seeks now to injure the Company, none of which have in any way, form or manner, done him the least injury possible; in fact they regarded his good report on the property as of value, until now, when he ignores it entirely, proving him to be one sort of a man one day, and another sort the next day, as his humour changes.

The facts are that this Company has a very valuable prospect, and are very hard at work developing the same, in a proper and mining-like manner. The promoters have not made one single dollar so far, and cannot until the Company is an assured success; not a dollar is paid as salary to the promoters or to the officers of the Company, all hands giving their personal time to the business of the Company, for no compensation, and with a view of making a complete success of the affair.

Every dollar of the money had from sales of stock goes to put the business on a commercial basis, develop the mines and begin the work of their smelting plant.

The capital is not over large for the work laid out to do, for